



THE DJJ FORUM

Where DJJ employees gather to stay
informed and celebrate our victories

July 3, 2013



Have A
Great

July 4th

Holiday!



In front of the set of the play "Eric and Elliot" at Andrew Lewis Middle School in Salem are, clockwise from left: CSU 23 Director Carolyn Minix; Roanoke Children's Theatre Director Pat Wilhelms; CSU 23 Probation Officer Tom Deane; Ashley Hatcher, prevention specialist with Blue Ridge Behavioral Health Care; Nancy Hans, director of the Prevention Council of Roanoke County; CSU 23 Senior Probation Officer Kimberly Lee.

Partner Power in Salem

CSU 23 Gets Extraordinary Community Buy-In To Help Keep Kids Out of Courts

When the final bell rang on a recent sultry Friday with storm clouds threatening, the middle schoolers of Andrew Lewis Middle School headed directly for the grounds of Salem City Hall downtown, where there was pizza, ice cream, caramel popcorn, candy, games, a magician, and dancing waiting for them. It might as well have been the county fair, except that everything was free ... and it was planned just with them in mind.

At the table underneath the tent was pizza donated by Dominic Marletta of Mama Maria's Pizza. Parked at the curb was a colorful ice cream truck owned by Freedom First Credit Union with the slogan "Giving back one scoop at a time" painted on the side. Under a tree in the corner, working in front of a black curtain, was a magician named the Great Zucchini – also known as Alan Hullette, superintendent of the Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Home.

Welcome to Salem's first-ever "Friday Frolic," an event spearheaded by CSU 23 in Salem that attracted as many willing community partners as it did the kids they wish to serve. And flitting from station to station was CSU Director Carolyn Minix, thanking everyone for coming while simultaneously hoping that the ominous clouds overhead would wait to unleash their rain until the event was over.

(See "Partners," page 2)

High Hopes, Bright Futures Abound At Commencements



For approximately 100 residents who graduated recently at our high schools' four commencement exercises, it was a time of tearful family reunions, pride in accomplishments, and renewed hopes for a bright future. Teachers, administrators and security personnel alike congratulated residents who earned diplomas and GEDs, sometimes against great odds. (See photo collage, page 3.)



Partners

(Continued from page 1)

Fortunately, the rain never came, and Minix breathed a grateful sigh of relief: the latest collaboration between the CSU and an extraordinarily involved team of partners had been a resounding success. “We hope to do this at least quarterly,” Minix says. “It’s a very important way to give our kids something to look forward to, and a great educational tool as well.”

Minix is the first to admit that this city of about 25,000 just west of Roanoke in western Virginia does not have the same challenges with wayward youth that larger jurisdictions have—yet. But recent complaints from downtown businesses that bored teenagers were hanging out after school and causing vandalism immediately drew the attention of Minix’s CSU staff, and of a great many other organizations and businesses that are very protective of the area’s relatively high standard of living. Minix organized meetings to discuss what could be done to head off problems that would become serious enough to get kids arrested.

Participation was immediate and enthusiastic, resulting in events such as “Friday Frolic.” Quietly tucked in between all the food and games are teaching tools such as the Wheel of Misfortune. To earn a piece of candy, the student spins the wheel and answers a question about topics such as gangs, drugs, and alcohol posed to them by volunteers.

Important messages are getting to kids other ways as well. The Roanoke Children’s Theater had Andrew Lewis Middle School eighth graders in rapt attention at a recent production of the one-act play “Eric and Elliot,” which



Kids attending Salem’s “Friday Frolic” enjoy free ice cream while pondering a question from a volunteer after spinning the Wheel of Misfortune.

explores the devastating consequences of teen suicide. At the play’s conclusion, the actors along with Artistic Director Pat Wilhelms led a frank discussion with the students about what they had seen.

In her travels around town, Minix and representatives of youth organizations throughout the area greet each other as though they’ve been friends for life – at least it seems that way, she says: Their children have grown up together starting as toddlers, some remaining classmates all the way through high school.

“I think that’s one of the biggest reasons this community has been so successful in rallying together to take care of its kids,” Minix says. “Our community leaders have lived here a long time, and they deeply care about maintaining the quality of life.”



Clockwise from upper left: Staff members of Blue Ridge Behavioral Health Care, from left: Lynn McDowell, Ray Bemis, CSU Director Carolyn Minix, Ashley Hatcher and Kathy Sullivan; Dominic Marletta of Mama Maria’s gets thank-you hugs for his donation of pizza to the “Friday Frolics” event; Minix, Community Development Educator Kristopher Taylor of Freedom First Credit Union and CSU 23 Parole Officer Tom Deane display the credit union’s ice cream truck; Alan Hullette, superintendent of the Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Home, assumes the role of the magician named the Great Zucchini at “Friday Frolics.”



Partial list of CSU 23’s Community Partners

Andrew Lewis Middle School	Fast Signs
Atlantic Utility Solutions	Mama Maria’s
Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare	RM Johnson & Sons
East Coasters Bike Shops	
Family Insight	
Freedom First Credit Union	
RAYSAC	
Roanoke College	
Roanoke County Prevention Council	
Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Center	
Robertson Marketing Salem High School	
Salem Police Department	
Salem Prevention Council	
Salem Red Sox	Sheriff Eric A. Atkins
Straight Street	YMCA of Salem
	Young Life

Graduation

2013



Welcome To the DJJ Team, New Employees!

Michael Favale



Michael Favale is the Policy and Planning Unit's new Legal and Administrative Hearing Officer. He will be responsible for representing the Department in employment administrative proceedings, and will provide assistance to the Department's Internal Investigations Unit. In addition, Michael will assist with

drafting and coordinating MOAs and assisting with ensuring that FOIA requests are acted upon in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations. He will also coordinate the Department's records retention and disposition schedule in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Public Records Act and the policies and retention schedules of the Library of Virginia. Previously, Michael was at the Virginia Attorney General's office for more than seven years. Prior to coming to Virginia, Michael served more than five years as Assistant District Attorney (Prosecutor) in New York, and he was in private practice for almost three years.

Promotions

Michael Traylor



Michael Traylor has been promoted to director of CSU 11-Petersburg. He began his career in April, 1974, at CSU 11, where he worked as a probation counselor and aftercare (parole) counselor specialist. In 1977, he transferred to Powhatan County as a probation counselor. In 1986, he was promoted to probation supervisor and supervised

the counties of Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Amelia and Powhatan. Traylor transferred to Petersburg in 1994 and supervised intake, probation and parole services. That same year, he was recognized by the Dept. of Youth and Family Services as an outstanding contributor for advancing the courses of interracial harmony, equality, and mutual appreciation for all people.

He is a 1973 graduate of Randolph Macon College with a bachelor's degree in sociology and has done graduate study at VCU in sociology and criminology.

Traylor's community involvement includes chairing the Dispute Resolution Center committee of the Better Business Bureau of Central Virginia Inc.; he is co-founder and past president of the Virginia Mediation Network Inc.; co-founder and past president of Southside Area Court Appointed Special Advocates Inc.; and he has served as a member and chairman of the Goochland-Powhatan Community Services Board Human Rights Committee. He has volunteered with the Boy Scouts of America and prison ministries in central Virginia for many years.

Lisa L. Devane, Probation Officer I, CSU 5 Suffolk

Lisa C. Fore, Office Services Assistant, CSU 12 Chesterfield

Gavin C. Landry, Registered Nurse II, Beaumont JCC

Amy Rice, Probation Officer II, CSU 22 Rocky Mount

Governor's Award Honors Ken Bailey's 45-Year Career *Training Unit's Basey Chosen As Ambassador*

Certification Manager Ken Bailey received the Career Achievement award at Gov. Bob McDonnell's Public Service Awards ceremony held June 28 at the Executive Mansion. The awards highlight state employees who demonstrate exemplary service and dedication to the Commonwealth of Virginia and its citizens.



Basey, Bailey and Director Gooch

Speaking about the 2013 Governor's Public Service Awards, Governor McDonnell remarked, "Since the beginning of my administration, state employees have partnered with me to reform government and strengthen Virginia's reputation as the best place to live, work, and raise a family. We could not do it without them. I am grateful and humbled by their service and commitment to their fellow Virginians. It is a great honor to recognize our most innovative and faithful public servants, together by harnessing creative solutions we have proven we can make government work better for the people of Virginia."

Mr. Bailey's career with DJJ spans almost 45 years. During his time as a public servant, he has had a profound impact on the lives of children and youth throughout Virginia. He has helped significantly improve the department's process for conducting certification audits and monitoring visits to group homes, juvenile detention centers, and correctional centers. Under Bailey's leadership, the department's Certification Unit is now directly responsible for auditing the provision of medical care in juvenile correctional facilities. His leadership helps ensure that the conditions of juvenile confinement are safe and secure.

Twenty state employees also are selected to represent fellow colleagues at the Governor's Award ceremony, held at the Executive Mansion, as a state employee Ambassador. Training and Development Coordinator Sharon Basey was chosen for this honor. Basey is the lead coordinator for the Essential Skills for Supervisors program. "Not only did I represent the training unit, but I also represented the entire DJJ staff – and it is was honor and a privilege to do so," Basey said.



VCU Interns Among JCO Ranks For First Time In Latest Class

For the first time ever, the most recent graduating class of Juvenile Correctional Officers included interns from Virginia Commonwealth University who have expressed interest in the field of juvenile justice.

The Memorandum of Understanding forged between DJJ and VCU notes that collaboration will not only help produce better educated, more career-oriented and professional juvenile correctional staff, but will also highlight the importance of the juvenile corrections system as an important resource for the community as a whole. The students met all the same requirements expected of any JCO candidate.

Left row, from top: Kyle Oppenheim, Corenda Lewis, Kristen Bauer, Jasmine J. White, Deanna Edwards, Glenda Williams, Pranati Walker. In between first and middle row, at

top: Theodore Knight. Middle row, from top: Novelle Motley, Ariel Ruffin, Tim Nesselrodt, Jaimell Massenburg, Thomas Li, Tashell Ortiz, Rakeia Martin, Kulwant Kaur, Brenda Phan. Right row, from top: Patrick Samura, Martina Meekins, Fuat Yildiz, Landon Winslow, Ashley Williams, Otwane Rollins, Joshua Willis, Jasmine Campbell, LaKeasha Moore. Four graduates at right, clockwise from upper left: Jasmine R. White, Craig Peterson, Ka'Tamara Spencer, Julie Reutter.

In the photo at right are the first 10 VCU interns ever to participate in the JCO program. Top row, from left: Tim Nesselrodt, Kyle Oppenheim, Corenda Lewis, Joshua Willis. Third row, from left: Thomas Li, Rakeia Martin, Kristen Bauer. Second row, from left: Kulwant Kaur, Julie Reutter. Front: Brenda Phan.

In Memoriam Lt. James E. Young

By Joyce Holmon
Southern Region Program Manager

Lt. James E. Young, a longtime employee of DJJ who started his career as a sergeant at Bon Air in 1999 and retired in late 2012 due to health concerns, passed away Monday, June 10.

We fondly remember Lt. Young as someone who had a clear sense of right and wrong, and was consistent in what he believed. In his life and his work, Lt. Young lived the core values that are the Army character – honor,

courage, and commitment. He loved life and lived every day to its fullest. Lt. Young accepted his challenge of cancer in the same way he accepted everything: with remarkable strength, tremendous courage and with an indomitable spirit.

His smile was like the sun coming out from behind a cloud, warming all that it touches. With his approaching passing, Lt. Young conveyed more joy, contentment, and hope than anything we could have imagined possible. Please allow his example to be an inspiration in all of our hearts.